

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) In combination:
a bulk bag [[12]] having a bottom [[14]] and a peripheral sidewall [[16]]; and
two rigid parallel-piped fork lift tine receiving members [[18]] having an exterior surface with a tie receiving channel [[26]] extending across a bottom face [[20]] of the exterior surface;
the fork lift tine receiving members [[18]] being tied with ties [[28]] to the bottom [[14]] of the bulk bag [[12]] the ties [[28]] being positioned within the receiving channels [[26]], thereby being protected from wear as the bottom face [[20]] of the fork lift tine receiving members [[18]] move across a floor.
2. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 1, wherein side faces [[22]] adjacent to the bottom face [[20]] of the fork lift tine receiving members [[18]] also have tie receiving channels [[26]].
3. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 2, wherein the tie receiving channel [[26]] on the bottom face [[20]] is aligned with the tie receiving channels [[26]] in the adjacent side faces.
4. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 1, wherein the tie receiving channel [[26]] is recessed.
5. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 2, wherein the tie receiving channels [[26]] in the adjacent side faces [[22]] are raised and protrude from the exterior surface.
6. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 4, wherein the tie receiving channel [[26]] is a dove-tail groove.
7. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 1, wherein the tie [[28]] is in the form of a belt [[34]].

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8. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 1, wherein slots [[30]] are provided at each of the opposed ends [[24]] of fork lift tine receiving members [[18]] to receive ties [[28]].

9. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 1, wherein the fork lift tine receiving members [[18]] have side faces [[22]] with raised stops [[38]] which limit relative axial movement of the ties [[28]] and the fork lift tine receiving members [[18]] in at least one direction.

10. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 1, wherein the ties [[28]] are in the form of elastic sleeves [[36]].

11. (Currently amended) The combination as defined in Claim 1, wherein the ties [[28]] are two straps [[34]] which are connected with mating tape fasteners.

12. (Currently amended) In combination:
a bulk bag having a bottom and a peripheral sidewall, the bulk bag having ties that depend past the bottom; and
two rigid parallel-piped fork lift tine receiving members each having a top surface and opposed ends, the fork lift tine receiving members having tie receiving slots in the top surface at each of the opposed ends, whereby the fork lift tine receiving members are tied with the ties to the bottom of the bulk bag.

13. (Currently amended) In combination:
a bulk bag having a bottom and a peripheral sidewall; and
two rigid parallel-piped fork lift tine receiving members having an exterior surface with recessed tie receiving channels extending across a bottom face of the exterior surface and adjacent side faces, the tie receiving channel on the bottom face being aligned with the tie receiving channels in the adjacent side faces;

the fork lift tine receiving members being tied with ties to the bottom of the bulk bag, the ties being positioned within the receiving channels, thereby being protected from wear as the bottom face of the fork lift tine receiving members ~~[[move]]~~ moves across a floor, the tie receiving channels in the adjacent side faces limiting movement of the fork lift tine receiving members.

14. (Original) The combination as defined in Claim 13, wherein the recessed tie receiving channel is a dove-tail groove.

15. (Original) The combination as defined in Claim 13, wherein slots are provided on top of the fork lift tine receiving members at each of the opposed ends to receive ties.

16. (Original) The combination as defined in Claim 13, wherein the tie is in the form of a belt.

17. (Original) The combination as defined in Claim 13, wherein the tie is in the form of an elastic sleeve.

18. (New) In combination:

a bulk bag having a bottom, a peripheral sidewall, and means for attaching ties to one of the bottom or the peripheral sidewall of the bulk bag;

two rigid parallel-piped fork lift tine receiving members having opposed ends, the fork lift tine receiving members underlying the bottom of the bulk bag;

securing means being provided to secure each of the opposed ends of the fork lift tine receiving members to the bulk bag, thereby limiting movement of the fork lift tine receiving members in relation to the bottom of the bulk bag; and

one of the securing means including at least one opening on top of each of the opposed fork lift tine receiving members at one of the opposed ends, the opening being adapted to receive ties, such that the fork lift tine receiving members are secured to the bulk bag by ties.